

From: Mitchell Smith
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/21/02 4:08pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear Sirs:

You ought to be ashamed of yourselves! Millions of taxpayer-dollars wasted, and this toothless piece of garbage is the best that you can come up with? You might as well have given all that money to Microsoft..it certainly would have had the same lack of effect as your settlement.

The objecting states, including California, want to see Microsoft receive SOME punishment. The DOJ seems to want the case to just go away, so they've come up with this impotent compact. Listen to the objecting states, because unlike Bush and Ashcroft, the American people want something for our money, and we want an end to the abuse of monopoly power by Microsoft.

Hell, if you'd like to follow Judge Jackson's original order and break 'em up, I'm all for it! Or better yet (and certainly more just), what about this:

1. Microsoft deliberately cheated capitalism, the economic foundation of our nation, by engaging in anti-competitive abuses of its monopoly power, and
2. The resulting damage to technological innovation (to competing companies who could broaden consumer choice, as well as exponentially advance the usability of the personal computer to said consumers) can never be fully appreciated, measured, or overcome, and
3. Those who would sabotage this country, effectively aiding foreign industries in coming closer to our abilities, are guilty of treason, and
4. Treason can be punished by death, hence
5. Microsoft must be killed. The stock price is immediately frozen, and the company dissolved over the course of the next five years, with all its units and patents on the auction block to the highest bidder to satisfy the corporation's debts and to the extent possible, shareholder equity. Of course, MS officers would not be allowed to sell or retain their stock as it was obtained through illegal acts, and it won't do them any good anyway because they'll be jailed for life for defrauding stockholders by engaging in illegal activity for the past ten years without disclosure.

Now THAT is just punishment. In capitalism, there can be no greater crime than anti-competitive behavior. The corporations, directors, and officers of this country need to know that if they engage in unfair, unlawful, and/or anticompetitive behavior that they will face the most dire consequences: corporate death, and yes, even death to the officers and directors

responsible. The death of a few dozen men will once again allow our nation, even our world, to flourish technologically. You could even televise Bill and Steve's executions to give the public some sense of closure, that the DOJ did its job.

If you were truly a government beholden to the citizens who pay you, and not to the special interests (businesses), THIS is what you would do.

How disappointing and embarrassing you are to our nation.

Mitchell Smith
Irvine, CA